Literary News and Criticism.

THE SCARLET CAR. By Richard Harding Davis, Illustrated by Frederic Dorr Steele. 12mo, pp. 166. Charles Scribner's Sons.

SPIRIT LAKE. By Arthur Heming. HT LAKE. By Arthur Heming. Illustrated the author. 12mo, pp. x, 335. The Macmillan

THE LONESOME TRAIL. By John G. Neihardt, Illustrated, 12mo, pp. 304. The John Lane Company.

70 THE CREDIT OF THE SEA. By Lawrence Most. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 297. Harper & Brothers.

BEATRIX OF CLARE. By John Reed Scott.
Blustrations in color by Clarence F. Underwood. 12me, pp. 365. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company.

THE SMITHS. A Comedy Without a Plot. By Keele Howard. 12mo, pp. 318. McClurc, Phil-

It was inevitable that Mr. Davis should write It was inevitable that Mr. Davis should write a book of fiction around the automobile. Every pepular author must nowadays write such a book if he is to keep in the procession. Not every popular author, however, does his duty in this regard with the high spirits and aptitude that mark "The Scarlet Car." The book is in the fashion, but it does not for a moment suggestion of the series of the s gest that it was written to be in the fashion a the contrary, it 'goes' with the vim only to e expected of an author when he is delighting in his task. Two threads of interest are main-tained. In the first place, there must be a situgtion for each of the three stories in the volume, n episode illustrating the power of the automo-ne-in fiction, at any rate-to involve you in fresh and astonishing experiences. And then, of course, the love motive must be remembered. In the conventional automobile fiction that is progueed in such quantities to-day, there is rarely a sudicious adjustment of the two sources of ex-Most authors make for ingenuity of plot, and leave questions of character to take care of themselves. Mr. Davis has struck a happy lalance, and he is equally successful in arranging the adventures he relates and presenting a pair of sympathetic lovers. The book is brief, well framed in every way as a conution to the fiction of the summer.

Stories of life among the Indians wake a cer tain uncasiness in the seasoned reviewer. He has read so many of them, and he has been bored by the long winded excursions into folk here, and the hideous dialect, by which most of them are disfigured. But now and then his doubts are speedily set at rest, and he follows with genuine concern the performances of new fighter or trapper. "Spirit Lake" offer one of these pleasant surprises. Mr. Heming uses it is true, material of a sort which has been used before, bringing into his pages the strange beliefs of the Indian, his woodcraft, and his enigmatical character. But he strikes a new note by dint of embodying these things in a kind of narrative, setting forth the incidents of a hunting trip made by one Standing Wolf. When the book opens the daughter of this Cana-dian Indian is ill, and the conjurer is making prodictions efforts to cure her. Incidentally, he points out that if Standing Wolf has any respect for the powers of the spirit world he will re-frain from making his usual trip after furs in own hunting grounds. If he goes to Spirit Lake he will unquestionably meet the Spirit an Indian rises above superstition. Standing shrewdly suspects that the conjurer has designs of his own upon the hunting grounds in and when he defiantly visits them with his whole family on slaughter bent, h need hardly note that complications ensue. Mr. Heming handles them adroitly. He writes at once as a lover of sport and of the forest, and as a student of Indian human nature. Though many of his incidents might stand by themselves as detached pages from the life of a hunter, they are bound together by the individuality of Standing Wolf. We must quote, by the way, one little episode which might have been writ-ten with an eye to the recent controversy over the ways of wild animals and their historians, showshoed along. Standing Wolf tried upon the boys the immense importance

you are to become great hunters forever studying your surroundings you may understand every sign of beervant, and you will become whise. Once I set a trap for a wolverine used me much trouble. Three days to was caught by the hind leg in my if was held securely, it tried many break the chain, then to gnaw the pole in two, and finally to unscrew the nuts from the trap. While it was thus engaged, three wolves came along. The wolverine, in terror, worked itself down low in the snow and close against the pole to which the trap was fastened; and then, as the wolves drew near, pretended to be dead. On seeing the wolverine, the wolves circled three times round that the trap was fastened; and there is no seeing the wolverine, the wolves circled three times round with the utmost caution. Then they upon their haunches in the snow air he wellverine made no move. Growing ey circled round again, and drew neares lest, the leader of the wolves, con that the captive was dead, rushed forward lanted his fore feet on its back, and was to sink his fangs into the expected feast when, like lightning. It turned upon its back, dutched the wolf with its powerful fore legs, bit Into the throat of its enemy, and at the same time ripped open the wolf's belly with the claws of its hind feet. The other wolves, on seeing their

tader killed, ran away."
"Did you see the fight?" asked At-tick.
"No, my son, for I did not arrive until the following day," replied Standing Wolf.
"Then how do you know what happened?" quesdoned the how

"Because," answered Standing Wolf, "the story of the whole affair was written upon the animals, the frap. the pele, and the snow. What further proof could you want?"

Mr. Nelhardt likewise has much to do with Indians in his collection of short stories, and with aspects of wild nature. The first thing in his book, "The Allen," is another of those innumerable tales written to hint at the possibility of a better understanding between a man and an animal than most of us find easily conceivable. The hero is a horsethief in full flight from the band resolved upon his hanging. He finds refuge in the cavern of a she wolf, and after beating the brute into subjection, lives with it on terms of something like mutual affection. Perhaps the author realized, as he went on with his work, that he was putting a pretty severe strain upon the reader's creduilty. At all events he pulls himself up sharply, and by giving a tragic twist to his climax lends plausibility to What might otherwise have proved a quite un-convincing yarn. Even so, we like Mr. Neihardt better in those stories in which he moves on firm ground, and paints credible human beings under probable circumstances- such stories as Scars," "The Art of Hate" or "The Revolt of a Sheep." We wonder what causes nine out of a Sheep." We wonder what causes him out of ten of the writers who bring out books of short stories to put their least satisfactory work in the foreground. "The Alien" gives little idea of the good qualities dominating practically everything else in "The Lonesome Trail." In the bulk of his book this author is admirably vigorous and sincere.

Mr. Mott's book, "To the Credit of the Sea," follows the custom that seems constantly to grow in favor with authors and publishers. Any one of his eight stories might be printed separately, but all are connected by virtue of the persistence of the same characters through the different narratives. These characters are drawn from the fishing boats and settlements of the Labrador coast. Some of them have heroic stuff in them and show it in transactions which the luther displays with a sense of drama and with a feeling for the stirring atmosphere of the sea Mr. Mott is very appealing in his portrayal of simple courageous types. He has not infrequent occasion to touch the pathetic strain, and he does so in a wholesome manner. There is some-thing true and sweet about his sentiment. His sturdy sea dogs are artless, lovable creatures. Danger is to them a sort of commonplace, to be taken as being all in the day's work, and they confront it in a way that immediately engages the reader's sympathy. There is an undercurrent of manly seriousness flowing through these ad-venturous pages. Altogether Mr. Mott has made

"Beatrix of Clare" is a romance of England in the time of Richard III. The hero's first ap-

Recent American Fiction, Gay, Grim a particularly flattering light. In Windsor forest he is overcome by a number of outlaws who
strip him of dagger, purse, doublet and pume,
and only great him averlage to the extent of strip him of dagger, purse, doublet and plume, and only grant him courtesy to the extent of trusting to his word of honor that, after they have departed, he will not move from the spot until "the sun has passed the topmost branch of yonder oak." But Sir Aymer de Lacy, of Castle Gaillard in Leicestershire, close by the River Weak, is not altogether unfortupate. Down through the forest comes riding the Countess Beatrix of Clare, and it would be a dull tess Beatrix of Clare, and it would be a dull reader who failed to discern in this beauteous lady the predestined mistress of Sir Aymer's knightly heart. Likewise, it must be obvious to any one that the two are not to be made com-pletely happy until both have shared in the ups and downs of a turbulent period. De Lacy must turn from his dream of love to serve the Duke of Gloucester, and he must find himself in many a tight place before he sees that individual comfortably established on the English throne. Hard blows must be struck and heads must fall. On a day, too, it befalls that the tragic fate of Buckingham, for example, is made to seem of small consequence, for the whole world is darkened by the disappearance of the Lady Beatrix of Clare. Here we must leave the plot to the reader. Mr. Scott works it out neatly. As he does so, moreover, he gives us a fairly clever and amusing picture of Richard's career. Save for a trace of rhetorical inflation in the diction, the picturesque tale is effectively told.

The young man and his wife who give the title to Mr. Keble Howard's book are presumably types of English domesticity. We are permitted observe their household from the day on which they return from their wedding journey to the day on which they bend blissfully over the cradle of the first grandchild. The object of the author in granting us this intrusion is to show us how an ordinary couple of the right sort may lead an interesting life; how the joys and sorrows and daily concerns of a commonplace family are not, after all, merely commonplace. Nothing memorable occurs in this book. The Smiths have no startling adventures. But we find them capital company, and read their history down to the end without ever growing impatient over the trivialities of their obscure existence. This is one way of saying that Mr. Howard is an acute observer, with a sense

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS.

Flowers of the English Wild and American Border.

NATURE'S OWN GARDENS. Written and Illustrated in Color and Line by Maud U. Clarke. 4to, pp. 280. E. P. Dutton & Co.

THE GARDEN BOOK OF CALIFORNIA By Belle Sumner Angler. Decorations by Spencer Wright. 12mo, pp. 14t. Paul Elder & Co. FOUR SEASONS IN THE GARDEN. By Eben E. Rexford. With Twenty-seven Illustrations and with Decorations by Edward Stratton Holloway, 12mo, pp. 307. J. B. Lippincott Company.

The English gardens which Mrs. Clarke so tly and lovingly describes are those of the copse, the field, the moor, the hedgerow and the brookside. Nowhere have wild flowers a more delicious beauty than in England, whose mild, moist climate seems to flush their petals with wonderfully pure and rich color. Who that has seen the Maytime snow of the hawthorn, the martial procession of the purple foxgloves, the sunny glory of the primroses, the "blue mist" of David Wilkins's Coptic version of the New Tesmartial procession of the purple foxgloves, the sunny glory of the primroses, the "blue mist" of the wild hyacinth, can ever forget those wild flowers of the mother country? The difficulties of color printing have perhaps added something of garishness to Mrs. Clarke's rather ambitious plates, but the flower-portraits are more or less faithful. There is natural grace and delicacy in the line drawings interspersed in the text. The wild blossoms of every month of the year are dealt with. There are the hazel catkins in January, and, for a freak, there is perhaps a pale pink bramble flower. There are possibilities of small and beautiful things in very ordinary places. You can turn along a village road on a day that makes one glad to have the houses between yourself and the wind, when the gaps between them are to be regretted, and there, low down inside some white palings, shivers a little plant holding aloft purple-pink flowers supported among leaves that are purple tinted also at their crown—the red dead-nettle." Shy precursors are these of a splendid company, whose claims are all impartially considered by the author. A particularly interesting part of the volume is tree growth-many and fascinating would be the experiments. The American reader will find much that is suggestive in this book-will discover, moreover, that some of the flowers are

"The garden of the world is California," says Mrs. Angier; it is an assertion which would doubtless be disputed by patriots from other regions of the world. "The ideal home may be though "ideal" homes are attainable under even less favorable conditions of climate and scenery. One of the things needed in such a home, she holds, is some common interest into which all members of the family may threw themselves temporarily. This interest is to be found in the garden; and starting upon this declaration she proceeds to show in what fashion a California garden may be made. Some of her suggestions may appeal to the gardeners of other climes. Here is a strange plan for beautifying the high board fence that divides one city backward from another: "Wire netting fence of about three feet in height, is most useful when used to form long wall pockets for plants on the surface of these same ugly board fences. . . The fencing should be nailed against the boards very securely at one edge, then bands of iron or strips of wire may be passed around at intervals, looping the lower edge up so as to make a hollow recep This can be lined with moss; preferably with live lycopodiums, and then filled with soil. These receptacles are ideal for delicate vines and ferns, and the inside of the 'unity board fence' can be entirely concealed from view by receptacles without damage, and the plants thus The author's plea kept fresh and beautiful." for the use of the garden house, arbor, and pergola in comfortable and artistic forms is of greater value, for Americans are only begin-ring to appreciate the pleasure and restfulness to be derived from such "out-of-door living

Full of excellent sense as well as of horticultural lore is Mr. Rexford's book addressed to the amateur gardener. He does not encourage any elaborate experiments or predict glorious results on insufficient foundations. The student f his pleasant pages can hardly fall to gather thence useful working knowledge as well as contagious enthusiasm. The chapters on rural and village improvement societies are to be heartily commended to all small communities. For a money making people we have been singularly slow in recognizing the practical financial value of Beauty. The average village is dotted with "eye-sores" and its outskirts are of dole-ful ugliness. Here is the outcome of the efforts of one society described by Mr. Rexford:

Each summer affords us fresh proof of the wis dom of our undertaking. Visitors from the city compliment us on the spirit of procrees visible on every band. "It doesn't look like the same place." they tell us. "You have made a model village of it, so far as outside appearances go. Your sidewalks put our city payements to shame because of the treatworthers. Your bornes show thrift. of their trustworthiness. Your homes show thrift. Your public places are kept in as tidy condition as your homes are, and that's something that can't be said of many villages. We like it here, and we're coming again." And they keep their word, and our village is becoming quite a summer resort. So we have found that what we have done with very little inconvenience to ourselves hus proved a good advertisement for the place and its people, and the present prospect is that we shall get back many times the labor and money expended in improvement, for several sales of property have been made at much better figures than prevailed before we began our work. The increase in the value of real estate is directly attributable to the improvements of their trustworthiness. Your homes show thrift estate is directly attributable to the improvement: bich have been made by our society

The details of the work done by this society are specially worth noting in that they show the Describe of Richard III. The hero's first ap-delightful effects of moderate and intelligent labor rather than of profuse expenditure. BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Current Talk of Things Present and to Come.

Hazlitt is the latest English writer to receive enthusiastic treatment at the hands of a Frenchman. A critical biography of him has just been published in Paris by M. Jules Douady.

If there is one type of professional man in the archæologist who is privileged to assist at excavations on ancient sites. Surely there be nothing more exciting than, with a turn of a spade, so to say, to come upon the relics of a remote civilization. Professor Ronald M. Burrows, in a recent report on the excavations in Crete, describes the uncovering of the Palace of the Minean kings at Knosses. Here is a cimen of what he has to say about the finds

of the excavators:

Besides the Throne and the Cuphearer, there were the long corridors, with their rows and rows of huge Aladdin's jars, twenty in a single storeroom, many of them still standing in position and intact, as when once they held the oll or wine of King Minos. On the walls were frescos of "his minions and his dames," in garden or on balcony "viewing the games"; the men close-shaven and with flowing hair, the women with puffed sleeves and flounced skirts, frises et décolletées, altogether ladies of fashion and the Court, of whom the French savant might well exclaim, "Mais ce sont des Parisiennes!"

The four volumes most recently issued by the Putnams in the delightful series of "Les lassiques Français," are peculiarly attractive, for they are devoted to works of great value, which are not generally accessible in popular. form. One volume contains the "Caractères" of La Bruyère, another the "Lettres Persanes" of Montesquieu, the third is given to the two incomparable comedies of Beaumarchais, and the fourth assembles some thirty-five or forty of the best letters of Mme. de Sévigné. It is for the last mentioned volume that we are especially grateful. It is just such a brief collection as this that is calculated to get the reader who knows Mme. de Sévigné only by repute interested in her enchanting letters, and cause him to pursue the study further. This series is especially strong in its introductions, and its bibliographies also command warm appreciation

Duffield & Co. have begun to publish a new collection of little volumes devoted to classics of a certain sort. They call it "The Rubric Series" and open it with "The Canticle of the Sun" of St. Francis of Assist, and in later volumes they will print FitzGerald's "Rubsiyat" the Declara. tion of Independence, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and his first and second Inaugural Ardresses, and Washington's Farewell Address.

We find in an English newspaper the unwelcome news that "The Monthly Review" has ceased to exist, "for the present at any rate." This periodical made a pleasing impression with its very first number, published by the house of Murray some seven years ago. Mr. Henry Newbolt, who occupied the editorial chair at the outset, showed that a poet could be a practical man, and obtained many admirable centributions for his pages. These were printed in hand some type on exceptionally good paper, and the cover had more than ordinary dignity. It is difficult to see why the magazine should have had to be dropped.

In the year 1716 a book was published by the Oxford University Press and put on sale at

Two years have passed since Mr. A. R. Waller printed the first volume in the edition of Matthew Prior's works, which he undertook for the nt series of "Cambridge English Classics." He has now brought out the second volume, completing his task. In it he makes a num-ber of important additions to Prior's writings, having had the good fortune to get hold of a quantity of hitherto unpublished manuscrip Among these new items are four "Dialogues of the Dead," the dialogues being respectively be-tween Charles the Emperor and Clenard the Grammarian, Locke and Montaigne, the Vicar of Bray and Sir Thomas More, and Oliver Cromwell and his Porter. The additions to the poetry embrace long pieces and a number of

Students of architectural history know well the beautiful church of Santa Maria della Consolazione, at Todi, and they know also with the collection of notes on the possibilities to be developed in private woodlands adjoining the what acerbity the debate as to the authorship cultivated garden. Here could be introduced ried on. Lovers of Bramante are loath to see masses of the wild flowers adapted to the natural him deprived of it, but every now and then the effort to do so is made by some commenta-Mr. William Mercer, who wrote on the subject in "The Academy" some years ago, returns to it in the current number of the same periodical, saving:

> Count Leonij claimed the design of San Gallo the younger, attempting, as well as he could, to dispel the widesproad misunderstanding so long prevalent. Unhapply he lay dying of a mortal ill-ness during my visit to Todi, and I lost my opporness during my visit to four, and I lost my oppor-tunity of consulting this eminent authority, the learned crchivist of the ancient city. I found a whole array of witnesses swearing falsely in favor of the gregarious guide-book statement that Bra-mante was the real architect of the church, and absolutely silent on the ciaim of San Galle; indeed,

absolutely silent on the claim of San Gallo; indeed, if books alone were to be relied on, I must have given up hope of establishing the right of San Gallo to the honor of constructing the design of this admirable church.

Vasari was the first writer responsible for the leading of a crowd of blind followers astray. He vaguely asserts that the exterior was by Bramante and the interior by Cola di Matteuclo da Caprarola. Several encyclopædias, as well as that valuables periodical the "Archivio Storico Italiano," respect trustingly his very words.

periodical the "Archivio Storico Italiano," re-trustingly his very words, en my learned old friend and companion mo Rossi, the archivist and librarian of Peru-whose death I serrowfully narrated in "The usuum" of March, 1891, steered cautiously but crossly near the old error; missing the name se correct architect, although he was always arctul to build his facts on the solid foundation rightal documentary evidence. In my letter I was rejoiced to dissipate the reigning fiction as supposititious designer of the church, and to of the suppositions designed to dissipate the reigning forton of the suppositions designer of the church, and to be enabled to restore it to its rightful maker.

After very many and fruitless researches in Flarence for the original plan, said to have been seen and forgotten by Count Leontj of Toil, I was enabled to supply the missing trace, and in my letter I appended translation of a certificate of origin signed by Signor N. Ferri, keeper of the origin signed by Signor N. Ferri, keeper of the prints in the Uffizi Gallery, which proved that San Gailo, and he only, was the true architect of "Santa Maria della Consclazione di Todi." It states that the drawing, No. 31, described as "Planta della Madenna di Todi," was by San Gailo the younger, containing autographs, together with various ather infallible characteristic words and signs by him. (See index, p. 221, of "Civil and Military Designs," compiled by N. Ferri in 1885.)

L. R. Hamersly & Co. have issued the third edition of their "Who's Who in New York City and State," edited by John W. Leonard. This volume of nearly fourteen hundred pages is of much more than local significance, for the names it includes are in hundreds of cases the names of men of national repute. All the professions are represented, and pretty nearly every business, too. The man who uses such books of reference could no more do without this one than he could do without "Who's Who in Amerior the similar compendium published in

There will soon be published in this country a book just out in England, which should cordially received by those interested in British political annals. This is Mr. C. S. Parker's "Life and Letters of Sir James Gra-The subject of this work was First Lord of the Admiralty in the ministries of Lord Grey and Lord Aberdeen, and Home Secretary in the administration of Sir Robert Peel. He was a man of rare character, who exerted much influence upon the affairs of his day, and Mr.

Since his retirement from the editorship of the London "Saturday Review," the readers of Mr. Walter Herries Pollock have heard too little from him in either prose or verse. It is a pity, for with his delicate sense of letters and his skilful pen, he makes what he has to say worth reading. While we are waiting for another book by him, it is pleasant to receive a little pamphlet of thirty-odd pages, published by Alston Rivers, under the title of "Sealed Orders and Other Poems." Friendship, patriotism, nature and the songs of birds supply the motives treated in the graceful pieces of this siender collection, and happily, too, Mr. Pollock dedicates more than one of his poems to the sword and its art, which he knows so well, and on which he has written before with so much originality and enthusiasm. Here is one of these especially characteristic produc-

THE DEVIL'S THRUST. That summer evening—I mind it too well, When the Devil crouched in my rapier's shell. We had loved each other in sorrow and joy, And we quarrelled over a worthless toy—A toy that brought his death, my doom! We fought alone in the great oak room. Rapier and dagger—we carried it through, Each mass each parry we hoth of us knew. Rapler and dagger—we carried it through, Each pass, each parry, we both of us knew. We paused, and then again to our stand. And I hit him sharp in the dagger hand. He turned dead white, but he cried, "'Tis we And the Devil laughed in my rapler's shell. His blade rang clear on mine; he passed And touched me in turn, and sald, "At last!" Again he gave me a grazing wound.

And the Devil whispered, "Now seconde!"
Once more he thrust, I beat down his sword:
It broke—he faced me without a word.
His dagger hand helpless, he had no chance,
And yet I led him a deathly dance, Advancing now, retreating then, Till the Devil cried, "This is sport for men!" And, "At him again, for he's pinned to the wall!" Then I used my dagger—and that was all.

Miss Retham-Edwards's "Literary Rambles press, is a book of pilgrimages. The author fellows in the footsteps of George Sand and Flaubert, Baizac, Michelet, Mme. de Sévigné, Brantôme and a dozen others. She is especially felicitous in work of this sort, for she knows

Henry Holt & Co. publish the fourth volume of Franklin B. Dexter's biographical sketches of Yale graduates. It covers the period from President Stiles's inauguration in 1778, to May. 1792, more than five hundred graduates being noticed. Among the names in the list are those of Joel Barlow, Noah Webster, Oliver Wolcott

her France and she loves her French authors.

"LORNA DOONE."

Points To Be Cleared Up in Regard to Characters in the Book.

"Lorna Doone" is one of those novels which Invite the annotator and we dare say there are many readers of it in this country who have interested themselves in the questions of fact it brings up. Some of them may be moved to reply to Mr. H. Snowden Ward, who, as we have recently noted, has undertaken to edit and illustrate a new edition of the book. In a letter to "Notes and Queries" he makes an appeal for unpublished evidence, or for reference to published notes which one is likely to have missed, on the following points:

on the following points:

1 The historical facts regarding the Doones. The principal theories are: (a) that they are distorted memories of Danes, of the time of Alfred the Great; (b) that they were outlaws from the coast of Wales, across the Bristol Channel; (c) that they were a miscellaneous crowd of outlaws (Western men and men from further up country), of whom the remnants died at the beginning of the last century; and (d) that they were a Scottish party, of the time of Charles I, who remained in Devon for more than haif a century, and then returned to their own land. It is possible that there is some truth in more than one of these theories.

2 The Doone legends earlier than the publication of "Lorna Doone." The stories that can be clearly established seem to be of outrages: (a) near Minohead, a house sacked, but no person harmed at the time, though in censequence of the death of a young Doone, who had been wounded at the house, his comrades returned and siew every one in the house. (b) At Exford, where the Doones killed (and in one version ate) a child, saying:

If any one seks who killed thes.

Teil 'em' itwas the Doenes of Hadgeworthy.

If any one asks who killed thee. Tell 'em 'twas the Doones of Hadgeworthy Blackmore lays the scene of this at Martinhoe, and adds the abduction of Chris. Badcock's wife. (c) Parsonage Farm (7), Oare, Amaid (or the mother) hastily hid, leaving a child. The Doones said, "Prick the calf, and the old cow 'll bellow," and pricked the child with their swords until it died, but the woman did not appear. (d) Yen-worthy, a farm near Oare, was attacked, when a woman fired a "long gun," wounding one of the Doones so that his blood was tracked in the snow

So far as I know, (c) is unpublished, except by so far as I know, (c) is unpublished, except by myself. It is a genuinely old story, gathered from the old folk, and seems like a variant of (b). Can any one give me other stories or other versions, with assurance that they were known before 1869? I am particularly anxious to know of any old suggestion as to the final fate of the Doones, and stories of atrocities which are said to have stirred

the countryside to their extinction.

3. Proofs of the legendary existence of other of Blackmore's characters before he wrote of them from Faggus, Mother Melldrum, De Wichehalse Tom Faggus, Mother Melldrum, De Wichehalse and certain other characters are well known in history or legend, but the originals of Jan Ridd, John Fry, Jeremy Stickles, and others are more difficult, though there have been claims of descent from Jan Ridd, and of relationship to "girt Jan." in plenty since "Lorna Doone" was written. Of course, there are many Ridds (Redds or Rudds) descended from those of the same name who lived in Eventry in the time of Richardrage or in the in Exmoor in the time of Blackmore, or in the time with which he dealt in his story; but what one needs is to be quite sure which Jan Ridd was in Blackmore's mind, and whether any "girt Jan" really existed in tradition before 1869.

Mr. Ward adds that any suggestion elucidating the basis of the story will be gratefully received by him. followed up and acknowledged He may be addressed at Golden Green, Hadlow

PRETTY POLLY.

Do Parrots Understand What They Talk About? H. Dann, in The London Spectator.

Those of us who possess talking parrots are

often asked the question: "Do you think they really understand what they say?" Sometimes I have been inclined to say "Yes," so striking has been the fitness of the birds' remarks; at other times "No." When a bird has been carefully taught, or has learned from his own observation, a considerable number of set phrases and sentences, there are certain to arise occasions when one or another of his excismations fits in happily with the conversation or circumstances of the moment. Some few instances of such coincidences (for every one of which I can vouch) may interest your circle of readers. Some years ago we were presented with a young green rrot. The bird can have been only a few onths old, as she gave no sign of her red tail. This, however, quickly appeared, and Polly soon gave evidences that she was listening to sounds and learning to reproduce them. now began to give her talking lessons by continually repeating over and over again set words or phrases, and were soon repaid for our pains. Polly began to talk, and quickly mastered a good many of her lessons. She added a good many self-acquired accomplishments, such as cab-calls, milkmen's and paper boys' cries, and the cawing of rooks. Her plercing whistle would often cause the milkman to stop and look around, thinking the "call" was for him. Polly also learned to imitate the song of the canary. She woud look up at her little yellow mate in her cage above and call her "Sweet, sweet, pretty little Dick, pretty little Dick." On one occasion was a man of rare character, who exerted much influence upon the affairs of his day, and Mr. Parker's two volumes are said to make the extent and nature of that influence impressively clear.

The second volume of the translation of Bielschowsky's "Goethe" may soon be expected from the press of the Putnams, and the concluding volume will follow with little delay. This book, by the way, provides one of the amusing little episodes in the charming novel which we were reviewing the other day, "Fraulein Schmidt and Mr. Anstruther." Out of the anxiety of the heroine's father to possess the the dressmaker was ushered into the dining room and was startled by the bird exclaiming:

work, the author makes some of her prettiest | last word: "What's the matter with you?" When signs of going out for a walk are apparent we are invariably and repeatedly bade "Goodby," with the accompaniment of showers of kisses. Upon our return Polly inquires: "Where have you been?" and upon being informed usually verilies. "Global walks." formed, usually replies: "Glad to see you back." During last winter my wife was one morning putting up an old stove for Polly's benefit near her cage. On the half landing the bird watched her with great interest, and presently said: "Do you feel cold?" "Count your blessings" was a phrase Polly found great diffi-culty in mastering, "Count your bless" being all she succeeded in uttering, and soon dropped this as too troublesome. However, after a time we tried her again. Now she drops out the "bless," and solemnly exhorts us to "Count your, count your—sins." A few weeks ago a servant was engaged polishing brasswork near Polly's cage, and the bird im nediately started talking to her. "Hullo, Polly! What do you want? What's the matter with you? Are you quite well? Do you feel cold? Where have you been?" and much more. Eliciting no reply, she shouted out: "Why don't you talk?" and drew the retort from the woman: "Because I am too busy, Polly." Polly replied: "How shocking!"

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

THE SCARLET CAR. By Richard Harding Davis. It lustrated by Frederic Door Steele. 12mo, pp. 1888 (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

Reviewed in another column. HISTORY.

THE STORY OF BACON'S REBELLION. By Mary Newton Stanard. 12mo, pp. 181. (Neale Publishing

THE STORY OF A CANNONEER UNDER STONEWALL JACKSON. In Which is Told the Part Taken by the Rockridge Artillery in the Army of Northern Virginia. By Edward A. Moore. With introductions by Captain Robert E. Lee, ir., and the Hon. Heary St. George Tucker. Illustrated with portraits. Svo. pp. 315. (Neale Publishing Company.)

VOYAGES OF SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN. 1604-1618. Edited by W. L. Grant, M. A. (Oxon.). With a map and two plans. Svo, pp. xill, 378. (Charles Scribner's Sons.)

In the series of "Original Narratives of Early American History," reproduced under the auspices of the American Historical Association and edited by J. Franklin Jameson, Ph. D., LL. D.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SHAKESPEARD AS A DRAMATIST. By George Pierce Baker. Illustrated 12mo, pp. x, 830. (The Macmillan Company.)
A study of the technique of the principal plays. POETS OF VIRGINIA. By F. V. N. Painter, A. M., D. D. Hlustrated. Svo. pp. 335. (B. F. Johnson

From the Colonial period to the present day. LUTHER'S TABLE TALK. A Critical Study. By Pre-served Smith. Ph. D. Svo. pp. 135. (The Macmillan Company.) In the "Studies in History, Economics and Public aw," edited by the faculty of political science of dumbla University.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE MAJOR SYMPTOMS OF HYSTERIA. By Pleare Janet, M. D. 12mo, pp. x. 345. (The Macmillan

A course of fifteen lectures delivered in the Medical School of Harvard University. TRADE AND CURRENCY IN EARLY OREGON A Study in the Commercial and Monetary History of the Pacific Coast. By James Henry Gilbert, Ph. D. 8vo. 128. (The Macmillan Company.)
In "Studies in History, Economics and Public Law," edited by the faculty of political science of Columbia University.

THE UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION. A Study of the Growth and Influence of Combina-tions in the Iron and Steel Industry. By Abraham Berglund, Ph. D. Svo. pp. 180. (The Macmillan Uniform with above.

THE TAXATION OF CORPORATIONS IN MASSA-CHUSETTS. By Harry G. Friedman, A. B. Svo, pp. 180 (The Macmillen Company.) Uniform with above.

THE LIMIT OF WEALTH. By Alfred L. Hutchinson, 12mo, pp. xii, 385. (The Macmillan Company.)

POETRY.

PAUSANIAS A Dramatic Poem. By Charles William Kennedy and James Suthall Wilson. 12mo, pp. 60. (Neale Publishing Company.) THE PATRIOT'S PLEDGE. By John Roddy. 8vo, pp. 72. (Privately printed.)

THE POEMS OF PHILIP FRENEAU. Poet of the American Revolution Edited for the Princeton Historical Association. By Fred Lewis Pattee. Vol. III. 8vo. pp. xlv. 430. (Princeton University Library)

POLITICAL SCIENCE. POLITICAL PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN DEVELOP-MENT. By Albert Shaw, LL. D. 12me, pp. ix. 268 (The Macmillan Company.)

A series of lectures delivered at Columbia University CONSIDERATION OF THE STATE OF IRELAND
IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY By G. Locker
Lampson. Svo. pp. viii, 700. (London: Archibald
Constable.)

RELIGIOUS.

ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA AND THE FAR EAST. By the Rev. Dr. E. M. Wherry, M. A., D. D. 12mo, pp. 246. (Fleming H. Revell Company.) 12mo, pp. 240. (Fleming H. Revell Company.)

The Student Lectures on Missions at Princeton
Theological Seminary.

SIXTY YEARS WITH PLYMOUTH CHURCH. Stephen M. Griswold. Bustrated. 12mo, pp. 200 (Fleming H. Revell Company.)

A history of the famous Brooklyn church by one of its object members THE UPLIFT OF CHINA. By Arthur H. Smith. 12mo, pp. xv, 275. (Young People's Missionary Movement.) In the "Forward Mission Study Courses."

REPRINTS.

RED RUBBER. The Story of the Rubber Slave Trade Flourishing in the Congo in the Year of Grace 1994. By E. D. Morel. With Introduction by Sir Harry H. Johnson. Illustrated, 12mo, pp. xxxi, 213. (American Tract Society.)

TRAVEL.

THE STORY OF DUBLIN. By D. A. Chart, M. A. Illustrated by Henry J. Hoyard. 16mo, pp. xvi, 255. (The Manyllan Congary).

MANY NAVAL PROMOTIONS.

In the "Medieval Town Series," with drawings, halftones and maps.

Advancements Follow Action of Personnel Retiring Board.

Washington, July 5 .- A number of important promotions have resulted from the action of the naval personnel retiring board and other causes. The following named commanders were to-day promoted to be captains in the navy:

Austin M. Knight, Charles J. Badger, Samuel W. B. Diehl, Reginald F. Nicholson, Edmund B. Un-derwood, Frank A. Wilner, Henry Morrell, Charles B. T. Moore, Ten Eyck DeW. Veeder and Alfred Reynolds.

Lieutenant commanders to be commanders: Rob-Lieutenant commanders to be commanders. Morert F. Lopez, Frank W. Kellogg, Reuben C. Bitler, Harry Phelps, Albert A. Ackerman, Leo D. Miner, Albert P. Nibiack, Harry Hall, Edward Simpson, Thomas W. Kinkaid, William S. Sims, Louis S. Van Duzer, Wilson W. Buchanan, William J. Maxwell, William S. Smith, John F. Luby and Hugh Rodman.

Lieutenants to be lieutenant commanders: Francis L. Chadwick, John S. Doddridge, Percy Olmsted, John R. Brady, Allen H. Cook, Christopher C. Fewel, Frank B. Upham, Andre M. Pröttor, John L. Sticht, Richard S. Douglas, Alfred A. Pratt, Emmett R. Pellock, John P. J. Ryan, Chester Wells, Irvin V. G. Gillis, Ridiey McLean, Raymond Stone, David F. Sellers, John T. Tompkins, Provost Babin, Simon P. Fullinwider and Stephen V. Carley.

TO UPLIFT THE NEGRO.

Object of the Cosmopolitan Society of Greater New York Explained.

Andre Tridon, secretary of the Cosmopolitan Society of Greater New York, organized to uplift the negro, had this to say yesterday regarding its ob-"The society aims to establish a common meet-

Ing ground where Caucasian and negro will become acquainted and learn to understand and appreciate one another. The society is non-partisan, but several socialists have joined the mevement. "We have no long list of officers vying for supremacy, Dr. O. M Waller, Ph. D., LL. D. and M. D., a graduate of Oxford University, living at No. 272 Merkings street. Brooklyn formerly rector.

ARMY AND NAVY NEWS

Working to Get Militia in Line for. Government Aid.

[From The Tribune Sureau] Washington. July 5.

MILITIA CHANGES REQUIRED.-The War Dopartment continues to receive all sorts of inquiries from the military authorities respecting the changes which are evidently necessary in the organization of the National Guard in the various states in order to obtain, after next January, the annual alloiment from the government appropri-tion for the support of the militia. One of the questions most recently raised is that in regard to machine gun detachments, of which there are a machine gun detachments, of which there are a number connected with the present militia commands. These must be converted into machine gun platoons in order to conform with the organization of the regular or volunteer army, in accordance with the requirements of the Dick militia law. The militia authorities are evidently making effort possible to conform to the require cents, and this disposition makes it the easier for the War Department to go to Congress next year and ask for an extension of the time in which the necessary changes may be made. It is probable that with the showing which the War Department will make the period in which the adjustment must be effected will be extended for a year or even for two years.

REFORM WANTED IN PLUCKING PLAN.—
The fact that fifteen officers had to be selected out in order to aid promotion in the navy has called attention to the need of some means by which the desired end should be accomplished without the humiliation of officers who have done nothing to justify this conspicuous indication of their unfitness for active duty. The incident will serve as an illustration of the need of some remedial legislation at the next session of Congress, provided the Navy Department is not hampered by the same sort of indiscreet campaign which was conducted last year, and which served to defeat all naval legislation and, indeed, imperil service legislation of all kinds. It is now suggested that there shall be applied the age-in-grade retirement to lieutenant commanders, commanders and captains, and that the rear admirals shall be selected after the manner of brigadiers and major generals of the army. Another suggestion which finds much favor is that officers who are to be promoted to the grades of lieutenant commander, commander and captain shall be passed upon and their advancement voted for by the officers of the grade to which the promotion is to be made. The selecting out of fifteen officers has imposed the need of doing something in the direction indicated.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ENLISTED MEN. REFORM WANTED IN PLUCKING PLAN-

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ENLISTED MEN. The Attorney General finds that it is impossible to do anything with the proprietor of the skating rink at Pattsburg, N. Y. in the way of obtaining redress for the non-commissioned officer and the redress for the non-commissioned officer and the enlisted men of the army on duty at Plattsburg Barracks who were excluded from that place of amusement because they presented themselves in the uniform of the United States army. While there is a New York statute which prohibits discrimination of this sort, it is limited to "race, color and creed," and the New York courts have already decided that this is a restriction which would not include the case at Plattsburg. This will probably lead to special legislation at the next session of Congress so as to cover such cases. next session of Congress so as to cover such cases and lead to the protection of the uniform.

THE NEW SUBMARINE FLEET.—The Navy Department will soon take up the details of the plans for the next submarines which are to be built out of the appropriation of \$3,000,000. While the plant of the plant which is soon. plans for the next submarines which are to be built out of the appropriation of \$3.00,000. While the type will be that of the Octopus, which is soon to have its trial trip, with a view to acceptance by the government, there is a suggestion that the new submarines to be constructed under contract at Quincy, Mass., shall be larger than the Octopus. The naval officers who observed the comparative trial of submarines in Narragansett Bay were of the opinion that there would be material advantage derived from an enlarged Octopus, and it is believed that the dimensions should be increased by providing an increased diameter of two feet and increasing the length of the boat by ten feet. This would enable the installation of mechanism which would add to the efficiency of the vessel, such as increasing the submerged speed by one or two knots, contributing to her manœuvring qualities and afording better facilities for handling torpedoes. The officers say there is plenty of room in the present submarines, so that those on board do not suffer any inconvenience in the way of restricted space for moving about.

ORDERS ISSUED.—The following army and

ORDERS ISSUED,-The following army and navy orders have been issued:

ARMY.

Captains CHARLES E STODTER 9th Cavalry, and MONROE C. KERTH, 234 Infantry, detailed to attend encampment First Brigade, National Guard of Fernsvivania, at Ferinasie, July 6.

First Lieutenants ROGER S. FITCH, 1st Cavalry, and LEWIS S. MOREY, 12th Cavalry; Second Lieutenants GEORGE C. MARSHALL, Jr., 30th Infantry, and HABRY L. HODGES, 1st Cavalry, detailed to attend encampment Third Brigade, National Guard of Pennsylvania, at Mount Gretna, July 6.

Captains CHARLES D. RHODES, 6th Cavalry; CHARLES E. STODTER, 9th Cavalry, and MONROE C. KERTH, 23d Infantry; First Lieutenants ROGER S. FITCH, 1st Cavalry; First Lieutenants ROGER S. FITCH, 1st Cavalry, and LEWIS S. MORREY, 12th Cavalry; Second Lieutenants GEORGE C. MARSHALL, Jr., 30th Infantry; and HARRY L. HODGES, 1st Cavalry, detailed to attend encampment Second Britade, National Guard of Pernsylvania, at Tipton, July 20. Brigade, National Guard of Pernsylvania, at Tip-ton, July 20. Captain William T. WillDER, 11th Infantry, from Fort

Slocum to his regiment.

Major Lansing H. BEACH, corps of engineers, to City
of Mexico, to attend annual convention American
Society of Civil Engineers, July S.

NAVY.

Rear Admiral P. GARST, retired, continue mamber beard on buildings, Navel Academy.

Captains S. W. B. DiEHL and A. M. KNIGHT, and Passed Assistant Paymaster B. M. DOBSON, commissioned.

missioned.
Commander R. T. Milligan, detached the Yorktowns
to bureau of navigation, Navy Department.
Midshipman R. S. Cull.P. detached the Iowa; G. B.
WRIGHT, detached the Kentucky, and H. JONES,
detached the Iowa; all to second torpedo fiotilia.
Assistant Surgeons M. E. ROSE, H. A. GARRISON, J.
T. MILLER, G. B. TRIBLE and O. V. HUFFMAN,
and Acting Assistant Surgeon C. W. O. BUNKER,
appointed.

appointed.

Passed Assistant Paymaster G. P. AULD, detached the Galveston; to naval station, Cavité.

Assistant Paymaster C. E. PARSONS, detached the Colorado; to naval station, Olongapo.

Assistant Paymaster E. H. VAN PATTEN, additional duty as pay officer, naval station, Olongapo.

Assistant Paymaster J. M. HANCOCK, detached naval station, Olongapo; to the Galveston.

Assistant Paymaster H. H. ALKIRE, detached naval station, Olongapo; home, wait orders.

MARINE CORPS.

Captain WILLIAM H. CLAFFORD, from San Francisco.

Captain WILLIAM H CLIFFORD, from San Francisco to Washington and report to brigadier general, commanding.

Second Lieutemant BENJAMIN B. COSSETT, resignation accepted.

Second Lieutemant JOHN H THOMPSON, detached First Higgsde of marines, to Naval Hospital, Mare Island.

Second Lieutemant FREDERICK A GARDENER, detached marine barracks, navy gard, Washington, July 12, to marine barracks, naval station, Guam.

First Lieutemant WILLIAM G. FAY, detached marine school of application, Annapolis, to marine barracks, naval station, Honolulu.

First Lieutemant LAUREN S. WILLIS, detached marine barracks, naval station, Guam, to San Francisco, and report arrival by telegraph to brigadier general, commanding.

MOVEMENTS OF VESSELS.—The following movements of naval vessels have been reported to the Navy Department: ARRIVED.

July 2—The Manly and the Talbet, at Annapolis: the Indians, at League Island.
July 3—The Delphin, at Watch Hill; the Tennessee and the Washington, at La Rochella, France.
July 4—The Supply, at Guam; the Cman, at Norfolk; the Glacier, at Tempkinaville.
July 5—The Lebanon, at Lambert Point. SAILED.

SAILED.

R. I.; the Amphifrite, from Newport for Watch Hill.
R. I.; the Amphifrite, from Charleston for League
Island.
July 4-The Pempey, from Guam for Cavité.
July 5-The Des Moines, from Eastport, Me., for Beston;
the St. Louis, from Rio de Janeiro for Montevideo.
The Princeton placed out of commission, July S. at navy
yard. Puget Sound.

FIRE SWEEPS NORTH LAWRENCE, N. Y.

Business Portion Wiped Out, with Loss of \$75,000-Malone Sends Aid.

Malone, N. Y., July 5.—The business portion of North Lawrence was to-day wiped out by a fire that, starting in the attic of Dunn's Hotel and fanned by a fresh west wind, burned itself out after destroying fifteen business houses, eight dwelling houses, the postoffice, Dunn's and the Commercial hotels, the Telephone Exchange and several small buildings. The origin of the fire is not known. The loss will reach almost \$75,000, with small insurance.

The village is without fire fighting apparatus, and

The village is without fire fighting apparatus, and the blaze was beyond control when help from this place reached the scene.

Rare Books and Prints in Europe.

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(Frank T.)

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Avenue, London, W.

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(Mezzotints, Colour
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BOOKS, VALUABLE
AUTOGRAPHS, &c. Sabin,

"ALL-OUT-OF-PRINT-BOOKS" WRITE MEL can get you any book ever published on any sub-tect. The most expert book finder extant. When in Eng-land call and see my 500,000 rare books. BAKER'S GREAT BOOK SHOP, John Bright st., Birmingham.